



## Document Profile

### Elective Services Filing

<b>Status:</b>	Final	<b>Drawer:</b>	Service Improvement
<b>Date:</b>	04/03/2019	<b>Folder:</b>	Ophthalmology\DHB Improvement Plans\Tairarwhiti
<b>Title:</b>	FW: Are you observing any increase in referrals	<b>File Location:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	Lynsey Bartlett	<b>Unit:</b>	Ministry of Health DHB Performance Support and Infrastructure DHB Performance and Support\Electives and National Services\Electives Service Improvement
<b>Document Type:</b>	Email	<b>Maintainer(s):</b>	Chris Stewart
<b>Summary:</b>			
<b>Knowledge Content:</b>	Med		

fyi

**Lynsey Bartlett** | Clinical Care Manager, Surgical Services. Contact s 9(2)(a)

**From:** Graham Wilson <Graham.Wilson@tdh.org.nz>  
**Sent:** Sunday, 3 March 2019 8:17 PM  
**To:** Lynsey Bartlett <Lynsey.Bartlett@tdh.org.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Are you observing any increase in referrals

Yes

Since two of the three practices now have OCT they are detecting things they know nothing about or are picking up early but not necessarily clinically significant disease.

Thanks  
graham

**From:** Lynsey Bartlett  
**Sent:** Sunday, 3 March 2019 4:59 PM  
**To:** Graham Wilson; Rachel Cook  
**Subject:** FW: Are you observing any increase in referrals

Your thoughts? Ta

**Lynsey Bartlett** | Clinical Care Manager, Surgical Services. Contact s 9(2)(a)

**From:** [Chris Stewart@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Chris_Stewart@moh.govt.nz) <[Chris Stewart@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Chris_Stewart@moh.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 28 February 2019 8:03 AM  
**To:** [RebecSteve@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:RebecSteve@adhb.govt.nz); [chris.bark@bopdhb.govt.nz](mailto:chris.bark@bopdhb.govt.nz); [alison.watkins@cdhb.health.nz](mailto:alison.watkins@cdhb.health.nz); [belinda.bennett@ccdhb.org.nz](mailto:belinda.bennett@ccdhb.org.nz); [terri.england@middlemore.co.nz](mailto:terri.england@middlemore.co.nz); [jane.hawthorn@hawkesbaydhd.govt.nz](mailto:jane.hawthorn@hawkesbaydhd.govt.nz); [carolyn.braddock@huttvalleydhd.govt.nz](mailto:carolyn.braddock@huttvalleydhd.govt.nz); [manager@rotoruaeyes.co.nz](mailto:manager@rotoruaeyes.co.nz); [katherine.gibbs@midcentraldhb.govt.nz](mailto:katherine.gibbs@midcentraldhb.govt.nz); [derek.sherwood@nmhs.govt.nz](mailto:derek.sherwood@nmhs.govt.nz); [mark.mcginley@northlanddhd.govt.nz](mailto:mark.mcginley@northlanddhd.govt.nz); [mkhalid@scdhd.health.nz](mailto:mkhalid@scdhd.health.nz); [brad.aitcheson@southerndhd.govt.nz](mailto:brad.aitcheson@southerndhd.govt.nz); [leigh.cleland@tdhb.org.nz](mailto:leigh.cleland@tdhb.org.nz); Lynsey Bartlett <[Lynsey.Bartlett@tdh.org.nz](mailto:Lynsey.Bartlett@tdh.org.nz)>; [stephen.ng@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stephen.ng@xtra.co.nz); [Kieran.McCann@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz](mailto:Kieran.McCann@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz); [janine.bacon@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz](mailto:janine.bacon@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz);

[Peter.Wood-Bodley@wdhb.org.nz](mailto:Peter.Wood-Bodley@wdhb.org.nz); [janice.donaldson@siapo.health.nz](mailto:janice.donaldson@siapo.health.nz); [joce.carr@healthshare.co.nz](mailto:joce.carr@healthshare.co.nz); [satbhama.narayan@tas.health.nz](mailto:satbhama.narayan@tas.health.nz); [jp.craig@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:jp.craig@auckland.ac.nz)

**Cc:** [Simon\\_Duff@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Simon_Duff@moh.govt.nz); [Chris\\_McEwan@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Chris_McEwan@moh.govt.nz); [Sue\\_Morgan@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Sue_Morgan@moh.govt.nz)

**Subject:** Are you observing any increase in referrals

Good Morning Everyone

On behalf of the Collaborative Team, some DHBs have let us know they have noticed an increase in referrals through optometrist presentations.

If this is happening at your DHBS - we are inviting you to let us know through your anecdotal observations.

Please send an email back to me if you have any thoughts on this.

Thanks in advance.

Regards

Chris Stewart  
Senior Advisor  
Electives and National Services  
DHB Performance, Support and Infrastructure  
Ministry of Health  
Mobile s 9(2)(a)

<http://www.health.govt.nz>

[mailto:Chris\\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Chris_Stewart@moh.govt.nz)

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## Document Profile

### Elective Services Filing

<b>Status:</b>	Final	<b>Drawer:</b>	Service Improvement
<b>Date:</b>	01/03/2019	<b>Folder:</b>	Ophthalmology\DHB Improvement Plans\Hawke's Bay
<b>Title:</b>	RE: Are you observing any increase in referrals	<b>File Location:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	Jane Hawthorn	<b>Unit:</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>Document Type:</b>	Email		DHB Performance Support and Infrastructure
<b>Summary:</b>			DHB Performance and Support\Electives and National Services\Electives Service Improvement
<b>Knowledge Content:</b>	Med	<b>Maintainer(s):</b>	Sue Morgan

We have def noticed an increase, I will get the data  
Kind regards

Jane Hawthorn  
Clinical Nurse Specialist- Ophthalmology  
Villa 3  
Hawkes Bay District Health Board  
Private Bag 9014, Hastings 4156  
**T: 06 8788109 ext 6932 F: 06 8781674**  
**Email:** [jane.hawthorn@hawkesbaydhb.govt.nz](mailto:jane.hawthorn@hawkesbaydhb.govt.nz)  
**Tauwhiro Raranga te tira He Kauanumanu Akina**

**From:** Chris\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz [mailto:Chris\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 28 February 2019 08:03  
**To:** RebecSteve@adhb.govt.nz; chris.bark@bopdhb.govt.nz; alison.watkins@cdhb.health.nz; belinda.bennett@ccdhb.org.nz; terri.england@middlemore.co.nz; Jane Hawthorn <Jane.Hawthorn@hawkesbaydhb.govt.nz>; carolyn.braddock@huttvalleydhb.org.nz; manager@rotoruaeyes.co.nz; katherine.gibbs@midcentraldhd.govt.nz; derek.sherwood@nmhs.govt.nz; mark.mcginley@northlanddhd.org.nz; mkhalid@scdhb.health.nz; brad.aitcheson@southerndhd.govt.nz; leigh.cleland@tdhb.org.nz; lynsey.bartlett@tdh.org.nz; stephen.ng@xtra.co.nz; Kieran.McCann@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz; janine.bacon@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz; Peter.Wood-Bodley@wdhb.org.nz; janice.donaldson@siapo.health.nz; joce.carr@healthshare.co.nz; satbhama.narayan@tas.health.nz; jp.craig@auckland.ac.nz  
**Cc:** Simon\_Duff@moh.govt.nz; Chris\_McEwan@moh.govt.nz; Sue\_Morgan@moh.govt.nz  
**Subject:** Are you observing any increase in referrals

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Regards

Chris Stewart  
Senior Advisor  
Electives and National Services  
DHB Performance, Support and Infrastructure  
Ministry of Health  
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[mailto:Chris\\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Chris_Stewart@moh.govt.nz)

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### Elective Services Filing

**Status:** Final  
**Date:** 01/03/2019  
**Title:** RE: Auckland Are you observing any increase in referrals  
**Author:** Chris Stewart  
**Document Type:** Email  
**Summary:**  
**Knowledge Content:** Med

**Drawer:** Service Improvement  
**Folder:** Ophthalmology\DHB Improvement Plans\Auckland  
**File Location:**  
**Unit:** Ministry of Health  
DHB Performance Support and Infrastructure  
DHB Performance and Support\Electives and National Services\Electives Service Improvement  
**Maintainer(s):** Sue Morgan

Hi Rebecca  
thanks for this update.

regards  
Chris Stewart  
Senior Advisor  
Electives and National Services  
DHB Performance, Support and Infrastructure  
Ministry of Health  
Mobile s 9(2)(a)

<http://www.health.govt.nz>  
[mailto:Chris\\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Chris_Stewart@moh.govt.nz)

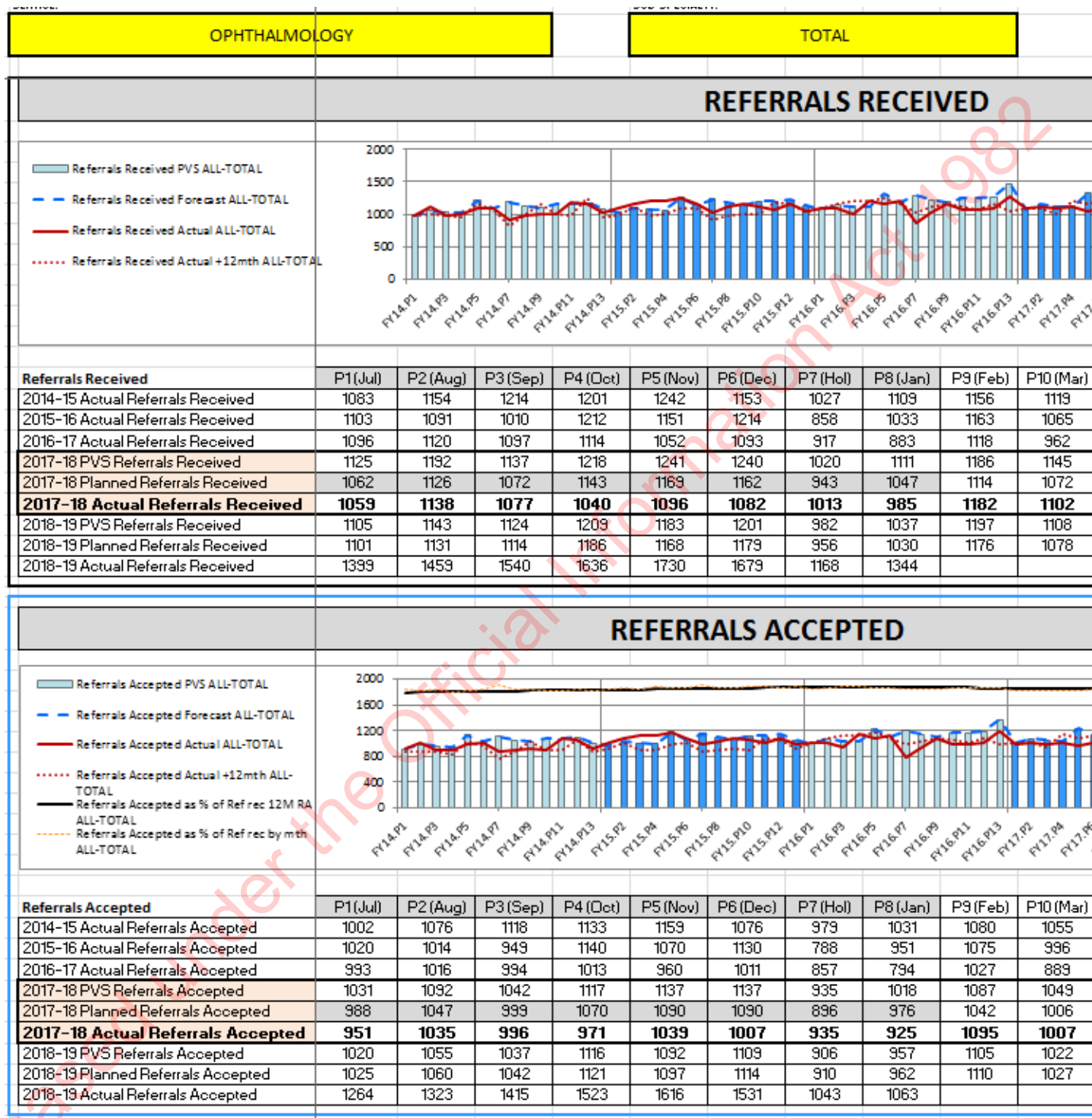
"Rebecca Stevenson (ADHB)"

Hi Chris, yes we have had a definit...

28/02/2019 01:52:39 p.m.

From: "Rebecca Stevenson (ADHB)" <RebecSteve@adhb.govt.nz>  
To: "Chris\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz" <Chris\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz>,  
Cc: "Sarah Welch (ADHB)" <SWelch@adhb.govt.nz>  
Date: 28/02/2019 01:52 p.m.  
Subject: RE: Are you observing any increase in referrals

Hi Chris, yes we have had a definite increase in referrals and are trying to work through where these referrals are coming from. It is widely thought that the majority are from Optometrists (especially with increased OCT availability) but our referrer data hasn't been well captured so it is difficult to confirm at this stage.



Rebecca Stevenson

Business Manager, Ophthalmology & GCC Outpatients

s 9(2)(a) | [RebecSteve@adhb.govt.nz](mailto:RebecSteve@adhb.govt.nz)

Auckland District Health Board | Level 1 | Building 8 | Greenlane Clinical Centre



**From:** Chris\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz [mailto:Chris\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz]

**Sent:** Thursday, 28 February 2019 8:03 a.m.

**To:** Rebecca Stevenson (ADHB); chris.bark@bopdhb.govt.nz; alison.watkins@cdhb.health.nz; belinda.bennett@ccdhb.org.nz; Terri England (CMDHB); jane.hawthorn@hawkesbaydhd.govt.nz; carolyn.braddock@huttvalleydhd.org.nz; manager@rotoruaeyes.co.nz; katherine.gibbs@midcentraldhb.govt.nz; derek.sherwood@nmhs.govt.nz; Mark McGinley (NDHB); mkhalid@scdhd.health.nz; brad.aitcheson@southerndhb.govt.nz; leigh.cleland@tdhb.org.nz; lynsey.bartlett@tdh.org.nz; stephen.ng@extra.co.nz; Kieran.McCann@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz; janine.bacon@wairarapa.dhb.org.nz; Peter Wood-Bodley (Whanganui DHB); janice.donaldson@siapo.health.nz; joce.carr@healthshare.co.nz; satbhama.narayan@tas.health.nz; jp.craig@auckland.ac.nz

**Cc:** Simon\_Duff@moh.govt.nz; Chris\_McEwan@moh.govt.nz; Sue\_Morgan@moh.govt.nz

**Subject:** Are you observing any increase in referrals

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Thanks in advance.

Regards

Chris Stewart  
Senior Advisor  
Electives and National Services  
DHB Performance, Support and Infrastructure  
Ministry of Health  
Mobile s 9(2)(a)

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[mailto:Chris\\_Stewart@moh.govt.nz](mailto:Chris_Stewart@moh.govt.nz)

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## Document Profile

### Elective Services Filing

**Status:** Final  
**Date:** 17/07/2018  
**Title:** Re: OCT and specsavers  
**Author:** Stephen Ng  
**Document Type:** Email  
**Summary:**  
**Knowledge Content:** Med

**Drawer:** Service Improvement  
**Folder:** Ophthalmology\Communications  
**File Location:**  
**Unit:** Ministry of Health  
Service Commissioning  
Integrated Service Design\Electives  
and National Services\Electives  
Service Improvement  
**Maintainer(s):** Sue Morgan

Dear Sue,

At the meeting with Specsavers' Garry Fitzgerald, we discussed their upcoming commissioning of Ocular Coherence Tomography (OCT) scanners in all their 50 or so NZ branches.

Their business model is to perform an OCT on all customers as they walk in the door. Our concern is that will inevitably lead to an increase of patients being referred to DHBs for unexpected findings or findings they cannot interpret. There was an analogous surge in referrals when Specsavers installed retinal cameras into their stores a few years ago.

This is not "screening" as Specsavers call it, but opportunistic testing. RANZCO has addressed this issue in its "Choosing Wisely" statement: *"In the absence of relevant history, symptoms and signs, 'routine' automated visual fields and optical coherence tomography are not indicated"*

However, since RANZCO cannot stop Specsaver's OCT commercial move, it recommends RANZCO members in DHBs should audit Specsaver referrals to determine whether referrals resulting from the Specsaver OCT rollout are appropriate or not. There is a view that OCTs may in fact detect disease that would not otherwise be found.

Sarah Welch, Dianne Sharp & I agreed that an audit will be undertaken.

In summary, RANZCO is not happy with the likely increased referral workload to DHBs, but is powerless to stop it. If RANZCO audits demonstrate that significant numbers of unnecessary referrals result from it, then RANZCO will respond as required.

Regards

Stephen

On 13 July 2018 at 11:09 Sue\_Morgan@moh.govt.nz wrote:

Hi Stephen

I hope Dunedin wasn't too cold for you.

Specsavers have asked for a meeting with the Minister. Is there anything from the RANZCO meeting with Specsavers that I should put in the briefing?

Cheers

Sue

**Sue Morgan**

Portfolio Manager, Service Improvement, Electives and National Services, Integrated Service Design  
Service Commissioning,

Ministry of Health, 133 Molesworth Street, Thorndon, PO Box 5013, Wellington 6140, NZ

DDI: 04 816 2543, Mobile: S 9(2)(a) [REDACTED], <http://www.moh.govt.nz>

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<b>Status:</b>	Final	<b>Drawer:</b>	Service Improvement
<b>Date:</b>	20/12/2018	<b>Folder:</b>	Ophthalmology\Communications
<b>Title:</b>	upswing in referrals	<b>File Location:</b>	
<b>Author:</b>	Sue Morgan	<b>Unit:</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>Document Type:</b>	Email		DHB Performance Support and Infrastructure
<b>Summary:</b>			DHB Performance and Support\Electives and National Services\Electives Service Improvement
<b>Knowledge Content:</b>	Med	<b>Maintainer(s):</b>	Sue Morgan

Hi Jess

Specsavers advised (in request to Minister prior to meeting)

In the first year alone, Specsavers expects to perform more than 485,000 OCT diagnostic scans across New Zealand which have the potential to detect an additional 100 cases of eye diseases each week, based on 2017 and 2018 findings in Specsavers' Australian stores.

ADHB report an anecdotal increase of about 100% in in referrals between October 2017 and October 2018, with a steep increase since May 2018 when OCT was beginning roll out at Specsavers. They are doing further analysis to determine where their referrals are coming from and how much is attributable to population change.

Sue Morgan

Portfolio Manager, Service Improvement, Electives & National Services, DHB Performance and Support  
DHB Performance, Support and Infrastructure, Ministry of Health, P O Box 5013, Wellington 6145, NZ  
DDI: 04 816 2543, Mobile: s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] <http://www.moh.govt.nz>

[mailto:sue\\_morgan@moh.govt.nz](mailto:sue_morgan@moh.govt.nz)

**Security classification:** In-Confidence

**Memorandum:** Meeting with Specsavers Optometrists

Date: 18 July 2018		Report No:	20181477
		File Number:	

**Action Sought**

	Action Sought	Deadline
Minister Clark	Note	30 July 2018

**Contact for Telephone Discussion** (if required)

Name	Position	Telephone	Contact Order
Jess Smaling	Manager, Electives & National Services, Service Commissioning	s 9(2)(a)	1st Contact
Simon Duff	Team Leader, Service Improvement, Electives & National Services, Service Commissioning	s 9(2)(a)	2nd Contact

**Actions for the Minister's Office Staff**

<b>Return</b> the signed report to Ministry of Health
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Note any feedback on the quality of the report

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Security classification: In-Confidence

Quill record number: H201804936

## Meeting with Specsavers Optometrists

To: Hon Dr David Clark, Minister of Health

### Purpose

1. This briefing provides you with information for a meeting requested by Specsavers Optometrists, on Monday 30 July 2018, 4.30pm to 5.00pm in your office. This meeting has been requested by Specsavers Optometrists to discuss their pending launch of Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) technology into all Specsavers Optometrists practices
2. They also wish to discuss how Specsavers Optometrists can best work with the Government to help improve New Zealanders' eye health.

### Background

3. Specsavers Optometrists are a commercial company based in the United Kingdom.
4. They entered the New Zealand market in 2006 and work in a partnership framework comprising 52 optometry and dispensing practices.
5. Their New Zealand revenue in the 2017/18 year was approximately \$37 million.
6. Specsavers Optometrists is introducing Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) technology into all Specsavers Optometrists practices in a roll out that will be complete by the end of September 2018.
7. OCT is a non-invasive diagnostic imaging technology that enables clinicians to obtain detailed information about the structures of the eye, allowing for more accurate detection of potential eye diseases including glaucoma, macular degeneration and diabetic eye disease.
8. Images obtained from OCT can be used as part of a referral to district health board (DHB) ophthalmology services where appropriate. OCT may also be used as part of the ongoing monitoring of patients with chronic eye disease.
9. OCT scanning is available at many optometry practices in New Zealand.
10. Specsavers Optometrists propose to scan all patients as part of the pre-test screening routine, and expect this to detect an additional 100 cases of eye disease per week.
11. OCT scanning as proposed by Specsavers Optometrists is not 'screening' but opportunistic testing.
12. There is concern that this will lead to an increase in patients being referred to DHBs for unexpected findings, or for interpretation of findings of uncertain clinical significance.

Contacts:	Jess Smaling, Manager, Electives & National Services, Service Commissioning	s 9(2)(a)
	Simon Duff, Team Leader, Service Improvement, Electives & National Services, Service Commissioning	s 9(2)(a)

## Talking points

13. While OCT is a non-invasive test, procedures to ensure the appropriate use of clinical testing, informed consent about the possible risks and benefits, and the management of any findings are essential.
14. The Ministry has been working in partnership with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO) with a multidisciplinary service improvement expert advisory group. The group is now progressing the implementation of national guidelines for the two chronic eye conditions, the management of age-related macular degeneration, and glaucoma referral.
15. The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO) have made a statement as part of the Choosing Wisely campaign. "In the absence of relevant history, symptoms and signs, 'routine' automated visual fields and optical coherence tomography are not indicated'.
16. All parts of the eye health workforce need to be involved, including those working in both public and private practice, in providing the best eye health care for New Zealanders.
17. Officials are available to attend this meeting at your request.

END.